

City Seeks to Dump Trash Dispute But Opponents Want to Dig Deeper

By Robert L. Asher
Staff Reporter

The District Engineer Commissioner says he has dug far enough into the trash-snooping controversy dumped on him last week.

Obviously burned up by repeated demands from the National Capital Area Civil Liberties Union that he find out why trashmen reportedly segregated one homeowner's refuse, Brig. Gen. Charles M. Duke said yesterday that he has disposed of the matter adequately.

The local ACLU's chairman, David Carliner, had said he is gratified by Duke's assurance that the practice has ended but feels the Commis-

sioner should find out how it started.

"It now appears that Mr. Carliner wants to carry this matter further and raise the curtain for another act," Duke said.

"I am reminded of the cliché that it takes two to tango and I hereby announce that I have left the stage. If Mr. Carliner wants to continue this matter further, he will either have to perform as a single or get himself another partner.

The best step for Duke, Carliner suggested, would be to issue an absolute order forbidding transfer of trash to any investigative agencies.

He said his office does not know who ordered the investigation of the trash, and thinks the District ought to come up with the answer.

Duke said he resolved the matter to the "extent of my authority" when he told Carliner that neither the Commissioners nor the Sanitary Engineering Department had sanctioned the alleged practice.

Carliner, who has refused to name the complainant, contends that the Sanitation Division officials knew about the practice. He added that his office is investigating other complaints of trash segregation and examination.